

REMARKS

Revocation of Power of Attorney

Applicant is enclosing herewith a Revocation of Power of Attorney and Appointment of New Attorney naming BRUCE H. TROXELL as attorney of record in this patent application. It is requested that all further correspondence regarding this matter be forwarded to TROXELL LAW OFFICE PLLC at the address listed on the enclosed form. A CHANGE OF ADDRESS FORM is also being submitted herewith.

Claim Rejections

Claims 1, 3, 7, 9-10 and 12 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph. Claims 1-12 would be allowable if rewritten or amended to overcome the rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as set forth in the outstanding Office Action.

Drawings

The Examiner has objected to the drawings under 37 C.F.R. § 1.83(a) for failing to show "the ring-shaped protruding body (163c) being detachably combined (screwed) with the isolating layer (16)". The specification, at page 12, lines 4-10, has been amended to clarify that the alternate embodiment of detachably combining the ring-shaped protruding body with the isolating layer is not shown in the figures. Since this limitation is not included in Applicant's amended claims, it is not believed that any drawing corrections are necessary.

It is noted that no Patent Drawing Review (Form PTO-948) was received with the outstanding Office Action. Thus, except as discussed above, Applicant must assume that the drawings are acceptable as filed.

Amendments to Specification

Applicant has amended the specification as noted above to cure obvious grammatical and idiomatic inaccuracies. It is believed that the foregoing amendments to the specification overcome the outstanding objections thereto.

No "new matter" has been added to the original disclosure by the foregoing amendments to the specification.

Claim Amendments

By this Amendment, Applicant has amended claims 1-12 to obviate the outstanding rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 112. Claims 1-9 and 10 have been amended to obviate the rejection set forth in the outstanding Office Action. It is believed that the amended claims 1-12 now specifically set forth each element of Applicant's invention in full compliance with 35 U.S.C. § 112. Since claims 1-12 have been indicated as being allowable if rewritten or amended to overcome the rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 112, no detailed discussion of the cited prior art references is believed to be necessary.

Summary

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicant submits that this application is now in condition for allowance and such action is respectfully requested. Should any points remain in issue, which the Examiner feels could best be resolved by either a personal or a telephone interview, it is urged that Applicant's local attorney be contacted at the exchange listed below.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: October 20, 2003

By:



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